PREPARED BY: DATE PREPARED: PHONE: Liz Hruska February 9, 1999 471-0053

LB 609

Revision:

00

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *

	FY 1999-2000		FY 2000-2001	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	5,750,000 - 6,600,000		5,750,000 - 6,600,000	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS	750,000 – 900,000		750,000 – 900,000	
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	6,650,000 - 7,500,000		6,650,000 - 7,500,000	

^{*}Does not include impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

This bill transfers the court-ordered support payments for children who are wards of the court or the state to the counties. Each county would retain the support payments to be used for child abuse and juvenile crime prevention programs and for the services for victims of abuse or neglect or juvenile crime. This bill would eliminate the county responsibility for payment of treatment services for juveniles under the jurisdiction of the court. This bill also continues the jurisdiction of the court to a juvenile committed to a youth rehabilitation center for purposes of assessing financial responsibility.

It is estimated that the counties will pay approximately \$5 to \$6 million this year for the care of juvenile offenders. The state takeover of this cost of care would reduce the counties cost by this amount in the aggregate and allow the counties to reduce property tax assessments.

The additional cost to the state will depend on the number and type of out-of-home placements. Expenditures would be higher than the \$5 to \$6 million currently spent by the counties, if more services or higher cost services are provided for the population currently being served with county funds. Federal funds would be available for approximately 15 to 20 percent of the costs for children who are Title IV-E eligible.

In FY 98, the state collected \$1,451,779 in support payments for state wards. Of this amount, \$1,214,810 was used as an offset to general funds. The balance, \$236,968, was credited to federal funds. State general funds would be needed to replace the lost support payments.

The counties would retain revenue of approximately \$1.5 million annually for child abuse prevention programs.